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To:
CC:
Date: 7/9/2014 2:30:32 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 7/9/14

OPA Daily Digest for 7/9/14

Congressional Inquiries:

None

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

Associated Press, Kansas City - Maria Fisher – 6/2/14: Follow-up questions regarding National Zinc site in Cherryvale, Kan. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (open)

Wall Street Journal – John Emshwiller – 7/4/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

KQTV Ch. 2 (St. Joseph, Mo.) – Alan VanZandt – 7/8/14: Questions about HPI facility in St. Joseph, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

LeMars Daily Sentinel – Bennett Goldstein – 7/9/14: Questions about HWY 3 PCE site in LeMars, Iowa. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

Des Moines Register – Bill Petroski – 7/8/14: Questions about EPA's regulatory role in regard to the Bakken Pipeline project across the state of Iowa. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

KSNW-TV - Rural Kansas fire departments concerned over EPA ruling - 7/9/14 - Rural fire departments across Kansas say they are getting 'thrown out of business' at the hands of the federal government, and specifically, by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

<http://ksn.com/2014/07/08/rural-kansas-fire-departments-concerned-over-epa-ruling/>

Wichita Eagle - EPA's proposed changes in water rules rile agriculture - 7/9/14 - The backlash from agricultural and rural groups in Kansas and elsewhere in response to proposed changes in federal rules regarding water protection has been strong enough to draw Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy to the heartland to defend the move.

<http://www.kansas.com/2014/07/09/3545467/epas-proposed-changes-in-water.html#storylink=cpy>

Springfield News-Leader - Obama's EPA chief calls farm bureau worries hogwash - 7/9/14 - The Obama administration's environmental chief, Gina McCarthy, is coming to Missouri to try to calm troubled waters. The source of the storm: a proposed rule issued by the Environmental Protection Agency that aims to clarify the federal agency's authority to regulate streams, wetlands, and other waters.

<http://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/missouri/2014/07/08/epa-chief-visiting-state-dispel-water-rule-myths/12394195/>

KQFX-TV Ch. 22 - EPA: No health impact from coal ash at Mo. lake - 7/9/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency says testing confirms that a lake in eastern Missouri is safe. Rotary Drilling Supply Inc. settled with the EPA last year in a case that required the company to cap a site near Crystal City where tons of coal ash had been dumped.

<http://www.abc17news.com/missouri-news/epa-no-health-impact-from-coal-ash-at-mo-lake/26859476>

Springfield News-Leader - Cattleman knows cows, poop — opposes proposed EPA rules - 7/9/14 - Cattleman Jim McCann has as many as 400 beef cattle on his farm in northwest Lawrence County not too far from White Oak Creek. McCann's cattle do what cattle do: they poop. A lot.

<http://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/ozarks/2014/07/09/cattleman-knows-cows-poop-opposes-proposed-epa-rules/12411631/>

Connect Missouri - EPA Administrator tours Rocheport family farm - 7/9/14 - top Washington official toured a Boone County family farm today. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy visited Bill Heffernan's corn and soybean farm east of Rocheport.

<http://www.connectmidmissouri.com/news/story.aspx?id=1067998#.U72NSf3L4Y>

Kearney Hub - We all want clean water, not EPA battle - 7/9/14 - In Nebraska, we farm. We also process, manufacture, boat, fish, swim and drink water. For the most part, those uses coexist peacefully, However, government regulators often have their eye on what goes into our streams and lakes, and our agricultural producers, which drive our economy, need a place to direct their waste and do it safely. These two sides don't always agree on the definition of safe.

http://www.kearneyhub.com/opinions/hubopinion/we-all-want-clean-water-not-epa-battle/article_37fe0376-0786-11e4-8229-0019bb2963f4.html

Bloomberg BNA - McCarthy Says Agencies Didn't Anticipate Regulatory Role for USDA in Water Act Rule - 7/9/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) didn't anticipate a regulatory role for the Agriculture Department in developing their interpretive rule to clarify Clean Water Act permitting exemptions associated with "normal" agricultural activities, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy said July 8.

<http://www.bna.com/mccarthy-says-agencies-n17179891948/>

Farm Futures - EPA's McCarthy: Ditch the Myths, Not the Waters of the U.S. Rule - 7/9/14 - A mid-week tour to Missouri is on tap for U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, largely in effort to discuss the waters of the U.S. proposal with ag industry stakeholders and "eliminate confusion," the agency said Tuesday. McCarthy plans to travel to the farm of corn and soy farmer Bill Heffernan on Wednesday, followed by a luncheon Thursday with the Kansas City Agribusiness Council.

<http://farmfutures.com/story-epas-mccarthy-ditch-myths-waters-rule-0-114845>

The Hill - Senate Dems to EPA: You're doing great - 7/9/14 - Senate Democrats met with Environmental Protection Agency head Gina McCarthy Tuesday to commend her work rolling out the proposed carbon emissions limits for power plants. The senators agreed that the EPA's efforts since June 2 have worked well and gone smoothly, Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) said.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/211723-senate-dems-give-epa-report-card-on-climate-rule>

BizPac Review - EPA to garnish wages for rule-breakers, bypass courts in brazen move - 7/9/14 - In another blatant power grab orchestrated by the Obama administration, the Environmental Protection Agency plans to bypass the courts and garnish private citizens' wages beginning Sept. 2.

<http://www.bizpacreview.com/2014/07/09/epa-to-garnish-wages-for-rule-breakers-bypass-courts-in-brazen-move-130558>

Farm Futures - Farmers Continue To Wait for Final Renewable Fuel Standard Volumes - 7/9/14 - According to U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, farmers will have to wait just a bit longer for the agency's final word on volumes for the 2014 Renewable Fuel Standard. The agency in November proposed lower volumes partially on concerns that the

fuel supply would be unable to handle the volumes initially outlined in the standard.

<http://farmfutures.com/story-farmers-continue-wait-final-renewable-fuel-standard-volumes-0-114842>

Agri-View - Send your comments to EPA now - 7/9/14 - Farmers have until July 21, to submit their comments to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the new proposed rule that defines the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act (CWA). For farmers, the fear is that the proposal would enlarge the scope of water protected under CWA far beyond river and lakes.

http://www.agriview.com/news/regional/send-your-comments-to-epa-now/article_951c7604-7ac2-50a8-9f15-22c9e5f1d518.html

Zanesville Times Recorder - Farmers fear EPA intrusion - 7/9/14 - Ohio farmers are sounding alarm bells about the potential influence of a new federal rule that's aimed at clarifying the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to regulate streams, wetlands and other waters.

http://www.zanesvilletimesrecorder.com/article/20140709/NEWS01/307080015/Farmers-fear-EPA-intrusion?nclick_check=1

Environmental Leader - How to Build Sustainable Communities - 7/9/14 - Sustainable facilities, green building and infrastructure can help communities become more flood resilient and save billions of dollars, according to an EPA tool.

<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/07/09/how-to-build-sustainable-communities/>

Fox News - EPA claims it has the power to garnish wages without court approval - 7/9/14 - According to The Washington Times, the agency announced the plan to enhance its purview last week in a notice in the Federal Register. The notice claimed that federal law allows the EPA to "garnish non-Federal wages to collect delinquent non-tax debts owed the United States without first obtaining a court order."

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/07/09/epa-claims-it-has-power-to-garnish-wages-without-court-approval/>

Washington Post - House: Less money for EPA's climate fight, more money for drought-worsened wildfires - 7/9/14 - The House Appropriations Committee released its 2015 Interior and Environment Bill on Tuesday, calling for increased funds for wildfire prevention programs and the Forest Service. The goal of that funding is to "help prevent and fight the wildland fires that cause millions of dollars in damages every year," as committee Chairman Hal Rogers (R-Ky.) put it.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-fix/wp/2014/07/09/house-less-money-for-epas-climate-fight-more-money-for-drought-worsened-wildfires/>

Daily Journal (Park Hills, Mo.) - Congressman Jason Smith: Missouri DNR Should Not Be Proxy for EPA - 7/9/14 - Today, Congressman Jason Smith (R-MO) expressed his concerns over the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) "Nonpoint Source Management Plan" and interactions with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed "Waters of the United States" rule. Smith has voiced sharp criticism over the EPA rule change that could give the federal agency control over every pond, gully, dry creek bed, irrigation ditch, puddle or other similar collection of water.

http://dailyjournalonline.com/democrat-news/news/congressman-jason-smith-missouri-dnr-should-not-be-proxy-for/article_14e2de5b-4def-56f2-aecf-25f2184e44e9.html

The Hill - Rep. Graves files bill to stop all EPA regulations - 7/9/14 - Rep. Sam Graves (R-Mo.) introduced a bill Wednesday that would stop every regulation the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is currently developing and require a review of all existing rules. Graves' legislation would prohibit EPA from taking action on any rules until its retroactive review is complete, and require congressional approval of all regulations that have an economic cost above \$50 billion, including past ones.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/211753-rep-graves-files-bill-to-stop-all-epa-regulations>

Kansas Farm Bureau - Kansas Farm Bureau president on EPA administrator's visit to Missouri - 7/9/14 - Kansas Farm Bureau President Steve Baccus looks forward to hearing from EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy tomorrow at the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City luncheon.

<http://www.hayspost.com/2014/07/09/kansas-farm-bureau-president-on-epa-administrators-visit-to-missouri/>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

7/10/14 – Meeting with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Office. Contact: Cecilia Tapia, 7733

7/10/14 - Attend Kansas City Agricultural Business Council Meeting, Kansas City, Missouri. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

7/11/14 – Joint R6/R7 COOP Meeting, Dallas, Texas. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7736

7/14/14 – Utilities State Government Organization Annual Meeting. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

7/15/14 - Small Business Majority Roundtable, Waterloo, Iowa. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199

7/21/14 – Civil Rights Event, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/23/14 – Senior Leadership Retreat for Regional Administrators, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/24/14 – National Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/28-30/14 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/31/14 – Missouri Environmental & Energy Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

8/6/14 - St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

DRA:

7/10/14 – Meeting with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Office. Contact: Cecilia Tapia, 7733

7/11/14 – Joint R6/R7 COOP Meeting, Dallas, Texas. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7736

7/21/14 – Civil Rights Event, Washington, DC. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/21-22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/21/14 – Civil Rights Event, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/23-7/24/14 Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

7/8-10/2014 – Attending RCRA Directors meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487.

7/14/2014 – Participating in Missouri Department of Natural Resources 111(d) kick off meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact Josh Tapp, 7606.

7/22/2014 – Participating in the Iowa Department of Natural Resources 111(d) kick off meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487.

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

9/29-30/14 - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

SUPR

None

WWPD

8/18-21/14 – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592